

### **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A method for preparing an aluminosilicate polymer, comprising the following steps:

(a) treating a mixed aluminum and silicon alkoxide only comprising hydrolyzable functions, or a mixed aluminum and silicon precursor resulting from the hydrolysis of a mixture of aluminum compounds and silicon compounds only comprising hydrolyzable functions, with an aqueous alkali, in the presence of silanol groups, the aluminum concentration being maintained at between  $1.5 \times 10^{-2}$  and 0.3 mol/l, the AL/Si molar ratio being maintained between 1 and 3.6 and the alkali/Al molar ratio being maintained between 2.3 and 3;

(b) stirring the mixture resulting from step a) at ambient temperature of between 15°C and 35°C in the presence of silanol groups long enough to form the aluminosilicate polymer; and

~~(c) optionally adding alkali to increase the alkali/Al molar ratio to 3 if required if this ratio has not already been reached in step a) and redispersing with acid; and directly after either step (b) or (c)~~

(c) ~~(d)~~ eliminating the byproducts formed during steps a) and b) ~~and c)~~ from the reaction medium.

2. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the alkali of step a) is selected from among the group consisting of sodium, potassium, and lithium hydroxide, diethylamine and triethylamine.

3. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the silanol groups are supplied in silica or glass bead form.

4. (Original) The method according to Claim 3, wherein the silica or glass beads have a diameter between 0.2 mm and 5 mm.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the aluminum concentration is maintained between  $4.4 \times 10^{-2}$  and 0.3 mol/l.

7. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said alkali/Al molar ratio is about 2.3.
8. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said alkali/Al molar ratio is about 3.
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the mixed aluminum and silicon precursor resulted from hydrolysis of a mixture of aluminum compounds and silicon compounds only having hydrolyzable functions is a product resulting from the mixture in an aqueous medium (i) of a compound selected from the group consisting of aluminum salts, aluminum alkoxides and aluminum halogenoalkoxides and (ii) at least one compound selected from the group consisting of silicon alkoxides and chloroalkoxides only having hydrolyzable functions.
11. (Original) The method according to Claim 10, wherein the mixed aluminum and silicon precursor is the product resulting from the mixture (i) of an aluminum halide and (ii) a silicon alkoxide only having hydrolyzable functions.
12. (Original) The method according to Claim 11, wherein said silicon alkoxide only having hydrolyzable functions is tetraethyl orthosilicate or tetraethyl orthosilicate.
13. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1, comprising, after step ~~c)~~ ~~d)~~ a step ~~e)~~ d), by which at least one acid modifying ~~chelating~~ agent of aluminum is added to the aluminosilicate polymer resulting from step ~~d)~~ ~~c)~~ wherein the acid modifying agent allows the modification of the surface of the aluminosilicate polymer.
14. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 13, wherein said acid modifying ~~chelating~~ agent of aluminum is selected from group consisting of carboxylic acids, phosphonic acids, sulfonic acids, difunctional acids, their ester and anhydride components and amino acids.
15. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 14, wherein said acid modifying ~~chelating~~ agent of aluminum is selected from the group consisting of HCOOH, R<sub>1</sub>COOH wherein R<sub>1</sub> is selected from the group consisting of CH<sub>3</sub>(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>, n being between 0 and 12, CF<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, substituted aromatic rings, C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>4</sub>S; R<sub>2</sub>PO(OH)<sub>2</sub> wherein R<sub>2</sub> is selected from the group consisting of CH<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>; R<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>H wherein R<sub>3</sub> is CH<sub>3</sub>(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>, n being between 0 and 5;

HOOC(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>COOH, n = 0-8; aromatic difunctional acids; HOOC(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>PO(OH)<sub>2</sub>, n = 2, 4; hydroxyl aliphatic acids; HOOC(CH<sub>2</sub>OH)<sub>n</sub>COOH, n = 1-2; CH<sub>3</sub>CH(NH<sub>2</sub>)COOH.

16. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 13, wherein step e) comprises a first adding of acetic acid and a following adding of another different acid modifying ~~chelating~~ agent of aluminum.

17. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 13, wherein the amount of acid modifying ~~chelating~~ agent of aluminum corresponds to a molar ration between chelating functions of the chelating agent and aluminum of the aluminosilicate polymer comprised between 0.1 and 10.

18. (Original) A material obtainable by the method according to Claim 1.

19. (Previously presented) The material according to Claim 18, characterized in that its Raman spectrum comprises in spectral region 200-600 cm<sup>-1</sup> a wide band at 250±6 cm<sup>-1</sup>, the Raman spectrum being produced for the material resulting from steps b) and c) and before step d).

20. (New) The method according to Claim 1 wherein the hybrid aluminosilicate polymer is characterized in that its Raman spectrum comprises in spectral region 200-600 cm<sup>-1</sup> a wide band at 250±6 cm<sup>-1</sup>, a wide intense band at 359±6 cm<sup>-1</sup>, a shoulder at 407±7 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and a wide band at 501±6 cm<sup>-1</sup>, the Raman spectrum being produced for the material resulting from step b) and before step c).

21. (New) A method for preparing a hybrid aluminosilicate polymer, comprising the following steps:

a) treating a mixed aluminum and silicon alkoxide of which the silicon has hydrolyzable substituents only, or a mixed aluminum and silicon precursor resulting from the hydrolysis of a mixture of aluminum compounds and silicon compounds only having hydrolyzable substituents, with an aqueous alkali, in the presence of silanol groups, the aluminum concentration being maintained at less than 0.3 mol/l, the Al/Si molar ratio being maintained between 1 and 3.6 and the alkali/Al molar ratio being maintained between 2.3 and 3

b) stirring the mixture resulting from step a) at ambient temperature of between 15°C and 35 °C in the presence of silanol groups long enough to form the hybrid aluminosilicate polymer; and then directly

- c) adding alkali to increase the alkali/Al molar ratio to 3 if required if this ratio has not already been reached in step a); and then directly
- d) eliminating the byproducts formed during steps a) and b) and c) from the reaction medium.